



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 98,541-C)

SAD
#SA
9.4.02

In the Application of:

Kimberly Christensen

Serial No.: 09/721,096

Filing Date: November 22, 2000

For: Removal Of Embedding Media
From Biological Samples and Cell Conditioning
on Automated Staining Instruments

Examiner: K. Patricia Bex

Group Art Unit: 1743

Confirmation No. 4217

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS:

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2002
TC 1700

Please cancel claims 1-46 without prejudice. Please add new claims 47-74 as follows:

47. [New claim] A method of removing embedding medium from a biological sample, the method comprising the steps of:

heating the biological sample containing embedding medium to a temperature at or above the embedding medium's melting point; and

applying a non-organic liquid to the biological sample to separate the liquified embedding medium from the biological sample, wherein said non-organic liquid has a density greater than that of the liquefied embedding medium.

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